

SUBJECT GROUP 3500-3699 TRAINING AND READINESS

SUBGROUP 3522 - SONAR

3522.1 Hazards of Sonar Transmissions

a. General. Sonar operations will not be conducted in the vicinity of diving operations. The high power transmitted by sonar is capable of causing serious physiological damage to divers and swimmers in the vicinity. In the event it becomes necessary to operate sonar equipment in port while diving operations are in progress, minimum safe distances prescribed by NAVSEAINST 3150.2 will be strictly observed to prevent injury to personnel. It is the responsibility of the ship's commanding officer (CO) to ensure that no one is injured by sonar. See Article 3170.3 of this manual for procedures for diving operations.

b. Permission to Conduct Sonar Operations at Naval Station (NAVSTA), Norfolk, and Naval Amphibious Base (NAVPHIBASE), Little Creek. All transmissions will be restricted to the hours of 1800-0600, Monday-Friday, and all day Saturday and Sunday. A message request is required using the following format at least 36 hours in advance of the planned transmission. Emergent requests required to clear an underway, restrictive condition will be assigned a priority and handled accordingly. In the event it is necessary to conduct diving operations during stated sonar windows due to unscheduled emergent work or major evolutions, sonar windows may be altered by Port Operations (Port Ops). Coordination of sonar and diving operations at anchor shall be the responsibility of the affected ship's CO. Use the following format for requesting permission to transmit sonar:

FROM {Originator}
TO NAVSTA NORFOLK VA//PD PORT OPS/N3//
INFO
SOPA ADMIN HAMPTON ROADS AREA VA//N31//
COMREGSUPPGRU NORFOLK VA//414//
MOBDIVSALU TWO
ROICC NORFOLK VA//RO//
SIMA NORFOLK VA//00/01/03/06//
NAVFAC MIDLANT NORFOLK VA
FISC NORFOLK VA//105/306/700//

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(SHIPS IN THE VICINITY)
TYPE COMMANDER (if period longer than 5 days)
UNCLAS //N03255//
MSGID/GENADMIN/(originator)//
SUBJ/SONAR TRANSMISSION//
REF/A/DOC/COMNAVREG MIDLANT//DATE//
AMPN/COMNAVREGMIDLANT/SOPA(ADMIN)HRINST 5400.1A (SOPA MANUAL)
ARTICLE 3522.1//
RMKS/1. IAW REF A, REQUEST PERMISSION TO TRANSMIT SONAR (DTG)
TO (DTG), AT PIER (NO.) USING NOT GREATER THAN 20 PERCENT DUTY
CYCLE.

2. REASON FOR REQUEST: (E.G., PMS, INSPECTION, ETC.)//

NOTE 1: This is the only time ships are authorized to use this
CAD.

c. Permission to Conduct Sonar Operations at Norfolk Naval
Shipyard (NAVSHIPYD Norfolk), Portsmouth, or Other Shipyards In
the Vicinity of Norfolk. Ships berthed/undergoing repairs at
shipyards (military or civilian) in the Portsmouth Subarea shall
request permission by message at least 36 hours in advance from
NAVSHIPYD NORFOLK VA//800//. Use the following format for
requesting permission to transmit sonar at/near NAVSHIPYD
Norfolk.

FROM {Originator}
TO NAVSHIPYD NORFOLK VA//800/812/821/300/900//
INFO (SHIPS IN THE VICINITY)
SUPSHIP PORTSMOUTH VA//
NAVSTA NORFOLK VA//PD PORT OPS/N3//
UNCLAS//N03255//
MSGID/GENADMIN/(ORIGINATOR)//
REF/A/DOC/COMNAVREG MIDLANT NORVA//DATE//
AMPN/COMNAVREGMIDLANT/SOPA(ADMIN)HRINST 5400.1A (SOPA MANUAL)
ARTICLE 3522.1//
RMKS/1. IAW REF A, REQUEST PERMISSION TO TRANSMIT SONAR (DTG)
(INDICATE HOURS OF TRANSMISSION), (SHIPYARD AND BERTH OF SHIP
LOCATION) USING NO GREATER THAN 20 PERCENT DUTY CYCLE.//

d. Permission to Conduct Sonar Operations at Naval Weapons Station (WPNSTA), Yorktown. Ships desiring to conduct sonar operations while berthed at WPNSTA Yorktown shall request permission in LOGREQ and at pre-arrival conference. For requirements which develop after submission of the LOGREQ and pre-arrival conference ship shall request permission by message at least 36 hours in advance from WPNSTA YORKTOWN VA//00//. Use the following format for requesting permission to transmit sonar at WPNSTA Yorktown.

FROM {Originator}
TO WPNSTA YORKTOWN VA//00/01/CDO/SAFETY/PORT OPS//
LANTORDCOM YORKTOWN VA//01//
LANTORDCOM DET YORKTOWN VA//OIC//
INFO //
COMREGSUPPGRU NORFOLK VA//414//
MOBDIVSALU TWO
ROICC NORFOLK VA//RO//
SIMA NORFOLK VA//00/01/03/06//
TYPE COMMANDER//
NAVSTA NORFOLK VA//PD PORT OPS/N3//
UNCLAS//N03255//
MSGID/GENADMIN/(ORIGINATOR)//
REF/A/DOC/COMNAVREG MIDLANT NORVA//DATE//
AMPN/COMNAVREGMIDLANT/SOPA(ADMIN)HRINST 5400.1(SOPA MANUAL)
ARTICLE 3522.1//
RMKS/1. IAW REF A REQUEST PERMISSION TO TRANSMIT SONAR (DTG)
(INDICATE HOURS OF TRANSMISSION), USING NO GREATER THAN TWENTY
PERCENT DUTY CYCLE.//

e. Restrictions. Duty cycle percentage (maximum of 20 percent) is established in accordance with NAVSEAINST 3150.2. Requests to transmit sonar for time periods longer than 5 days will not normally be approved. If a longer time period is necessary, ships may submit another message request.

f. Additional Requirement. Due to the potential danger to personnel in the water, ships will not operate sonar without first contacting the appropriate office and receiving permission to transmit sonar, as listed below. Ships must also make notification when sonar transmission is completed.

(1) NAVSTA Norfolk, contact Norfolk Port Control on VHF Channel 13.

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(2) NAVPHIBASE Little Creek, contact Little Creek Port Control on VHF Channel 12.

(3) NAVSHIPYD Norfolk and nearby shipyards, contact the NAVSHIPYD Norfolk Duty Officer.

(4) WPNSTA Yorktown, contact the WPNSTA Yorktown CDO.

g. Scheduling Conflicts. COMREGSUPPGRU Norfolk will resolve conflicts between sonar and diving requirements at NAVSTA Norfolk Piers. For assistance, call the COMREGSUPPGRU Norfolk Diving Coordinator.